

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 20 are pending in the present patent application. The Examiner has rejected claims 1 - 20. Applicant has added claim 21. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of claims 1 - 21 in view of at least the following remarks.

I. Rejection of claims 1-20 Based on 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-20 under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ford (U. S. Patent No. 5,786,815) in view of Rafacz et al. (U. S. Patent No. 5,949,494). The Examiner states:

Regarding claims 1-20, see Ford: Abstract, Figures 1B, 8A, column 2 lines 16-48, column 3 lines 20-62 (note the GUI receiving input file data), column 4 lines 5-50 (note the widget elements, the nesting of data classes and class definitions), column 5 lines 1-40 and column 15 lines 5-36 (note the widget indicia that support the input data and modification of the screen widget elements). Ford may not specifically describe the showing the detection of the input device when identifying associated program source code, or thus showing the specific updating of the input device status, but he does show the display and modifications of GUI elements that support input source code. Furthermore, see Rafacz et al: Abstract, Figure 2, column 2 lines 44-60, column 4 lines 19-40 for example. This shows updating elements based on detecting input device data, in which the updating is reflected in a graphical change in the element. It would have been obvious to a person with ordinary skill in the art to incorporate this possible feature of modifying the element for input device detection, into the system of Ford, because it would provide an efficient way to display and modify GUI elements that support input source code.

Applicant respectfully disagrees and submits that claims 1 - 20 are allowable for at least the following reasons:

1. *The cited references do not teach, describe, or suggest each and every element of the claimed invention and the Examiner has rejected all claims based on obviousness without any specific reference to any specific elements in any claim.*
2. *Neither Ford nor Rafacz, nor any combination of the two, teach or suggest detecting input device support of a screen element of a graphical user interface or identifying a screen element as supporting an input device when input device handling program code is associated with the screen element.*

Each of these distinctions is discussed in further detail below.

1. The cited references do not teach, describe, or suggest each and every element of the claimed invention and the Examiner has rejected all claims based on obviousness without any specific reference to any specific elements in any claim.

The Examiner has rejected all claims based on obviousness without any specific reference to any specific elements in any claim. The Examiner rejected claims 1 - 20 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ford (U. S. Patent No. 5,786,815) in view of Rafacz et al. (U. S. Patent No. 5,949,494). The Examiner combined the discussion of claims 1 - 20 together and for all 20 claims referred the Applicant to the Abstract, Fig. 1B, 8A, column 2, lines 16 - 14, column 3, lines 20 - 62, column 4, lines 5 - 50, column 5, lines 1 - 40, and column 15, lines 5 - 36 of Ford and the Abstract, Figure 2, column 2 lines 44 - 60, column 4 lines 19 - 40 of Rafacz. By way of explanation, the Examiner stated that the

Serial No.: 09/201,644

Applicant should "note the screen element indicia that support the input device, and modification of the screen widget elements. Ford may not specifically describe showing the detection of the input device when identifying associated program source code, or thus showing the specific updating of the input device status, but he does show the display and modifications of GUI elements that support input source code." With regard to Rafacz, the Examiner states the cited paragraphs show "updating elements based on detecting input device data, in which the updating is reflected in a graphical change in the element." The Examiner did not make any specific reference to any elements of any claim and the references to the Ford and Rafacz patents have been combined together to include much of the text of both patents without any indication of which portion of which patent applies to which part of each rejected claim. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner point out with more particularity where the cited references describe the elements of each and every claim.

2. Neither Ford nor Rafacz, nor any combination of the two, teach or suggest detecting input device support of a screen element of a graphical user interface or identifying a screen element as supporting an input device when input device handling program code is associated with the screen element.

Applicant submits that neither Ford nor Rafacz, nor any combination of the two, teach or suggest detecting input device support of a screen element of a graphical user interface or identifying a screen element as supporting an input device when input device handling program code is associated with the screen element.

Ford discusses a technique for users to make changes to a graphical user interface that does not require programming of callback routines or specification of the graphical elements required for the graphical user interface. Applicant respectfully submits that nothing in the portions of the Ford patent cited by the Examiner describe *detecting* input device support of a screen element of a graphical user interface or *identifying* the screen element as supporting an input device when an input device-handling program code is associated with the element. Indeed, the Examiner has admitted that "Ford may not specifically describe ... showing the detection of the input device when identifying associated program source code, or thus showing the specific updating of the input device status, but he does show the display and modifications of GUI elements that support input source code." Ford does not teach or suggest a method of detecting input device support of a screen element of a graphical user interface or identifying the screen element as supporting an input device when

input device-handling program code is associated with the screen element as claimed in claims 1, 10, and 15. Claim 18 describes “a detector configured to examine a runtime version of said screen element to identify whether said screen element supports said input device by determining whether input device-handling program code is associated with said screen element”. Applicant respectfully submits that nothing in the portions of the Ford patent cited by the Examiner describe a *detector* configured to examine a runtime version of a screen element to identify whether the screen element supports the input device by determining whether input device-handling program code is associated with the screen element.

Rafacz also does not teach detecting input device support of a screen element of a graphical user interface or identifying the screen element as supporting an input device when an input device-handling program code is associated with the element. Applicant submits that Rafacz discusses a method for displaying real time data relating to the operation of an automatic call distributor where an *agent* has the capability from an agent display to modify the types of data displayed, how it is displayed and the time period for data updates. The agent has to manually make the changes. Applicant believes that the method of Rafacz does not detect input devices. Applicant respectfully submits that nothing in the portions of the Rafacz patent cited by the Examiner, nor in any combination of the Ford and Rafacz patents, describes *detecting* input device support of a screen element of a graphical user interface or *identifying* the screen element as supporting an input device when an input device-handling program code is associated with the element. Ford and Rafacz do not teach or suggest a

Serial No.: 09/201,644

method of detecting input device support of a screen element of a graphical user interface or identifying the screen element as supporting an input device when input device-handling program code is associated with the screen element as claimed in claims 1, 10, and 15. Claim 18 describes “a detector configured to examine a runtime version of said screen element to identify whether said screen element supports said input device by determining whether input device-handling program code is associated with said screen element”. Applicant respectfully submits that nothing in the portions of the Ford and Rafacz patents cited by the Examiner describe a *detector* configured to examine a runtime version of a screen element to identify whether the screen element supports the input device by determining whether input device-handling program code is associated with the screen element.

Applicant disagrees that Ford and Rafacz make obvious all elements of each and every claim and requests that the Examiner provide a clear correspondence between elements of applicant’s claims and elements of the cited reference to permit the Applicant to better respond to the Examiner’s rejection.

Dependent Claims 2 – 9, 11 - 14, 16 – 17 and 19 - 20

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 2 – 9, 11 - 14, 16 – 17 and 19 – 20, being dependent upon respective allowable base claims, are also allowable for at least the foregoing reasons stated above.




CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1 - 21 are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and in condition for allowance. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that pending claims 1 - 21 be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

THE HECKER LAW GROUP

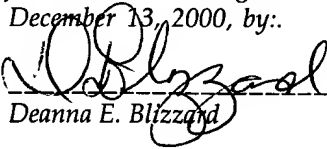
Date: December 13, 2000

By: 
Gary A. Hecker
Reg. No. 31,023

THE HECKER LAW GROUP
1925 Century Park East
Suite 2300
Los Angeles, California 90067
(310) 286-0377

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

This is to certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on: December 13, 2000, by:


Deanna E. Blizzard December 13, 2000